

Reservists' given retroactive health insurance payments

DOD employees called to active duty can now claim retroactive reimbursement of health insurance premiums paid while on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after Dec. 8, 1995.

To be eligible for reimbursement of Federal Employees Health Benefits premiums, the employee or former employee must meet the following requirements:

★ Must have been a civilian employee of DOD at the time called to perform active duty.

★ Must have been enrolled in FEHB and paid the employee share of the premiums, either by payroll deduction after returning from active duty or by direct payments to the payroll office during the period of active duty.

★ Must have been a member of a Reserve component of the U. S. armed forces.

★ Must have been called or ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation as defined in section 101(a) (13) of Title 10, United States Code.

★ Must have been placed on leave without pay or separated from federal civilian service to perform active duty.

★ Must have served on active duty for a period of more than 30 consecutive days for each period for which reimbursement is claimed.

For more information and procedures for filing a claim for retroactive reimbursement of FEHB premiums, visit the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/res-emp-info.htm.

Current employees may call 800-616-3775, press 2 for civilian, then 2 for benefits and entitlements.

Reservist earns Pitsenbarger award

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFPN)—A reservist from Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., has been named the 2004 Pitsenbarger award winner.

Senior Master Sgt. Dale Berryhill, an airborne communications systems operator, was selected for his heroism while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Berryhill was a crewmember aboard an MC-130E Combat Talon I about 50 miles northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, when a fire erupted. The flames and smoke quickly engulfed the cargo compartment and flight deck of the aircraft, filling it with toxic fumes.

While other crewmembers donned their personal protective gear, Sergeant Berryhill recognized the dire situation and immediately controlled the fire. He then discharged the halon fire extinguisher at the source of the inferno without wearing personal-protective gear.

Sergeant Berryhill then made in-flight emergency calls; he managed five different radio nets simultaneously and ensured all incoming flights and the landing area were clear.

When his aircraft was attacked by small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades upon landing, Sergeant Berryhill displayed amazing situational awareness when he passed pinpoint coordinates to the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers, said Lt. Col. Kenneth Ray, 711th Special Operations Squadron commander.

"I just did my job," Sergeant Berryhill said. "There were nine other people on that airplane that night, and it took all of us doing something right to survive and get us all back safely. Fortunately, we had an experienced crew that night."

The Air Force Sergeant's Association gives the Pitsenbarger Award annually to an enlisted Airman for heroic acts, on or off duty, that save a life or prevent serious injury.

Lieutenant in Kabul found guilty of involuntary manslaughter

BY LT. COL. JEFFREY SLAGLE

379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Legal Office

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN)—A first lieutenant was sentenced to 18 months confinement and dismissal from the service in a general court-martial May 31 in the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing courtroom at a forward-deployed location.

First Lt. Todd Doughty elected to be tried by a military judge alone, and he pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter, drunk and reckless driving, and drinking in violation of U.S. Central Command's General Order 1A.

The charges stemmed from a Feb. 25 and 26 incident in Kabul, Afghanistan. After drinking, Lieutenant Doughty lost control of his vehicle while driving at a high speed. The passenger in the car, an Army specialist, was killed in the one-vehicle accident.

The lieutenant, who is deployed from Holloman AFB, N.M., had been scheduled to depart Afghanistan within days of the accident after serving there since May 2003. He was transferred to the 379th AEW to stand trial because there is no Air Force legal office near Kabul.

This was the first Air Force court-martial in the Central Command Air Forces area in 2004.

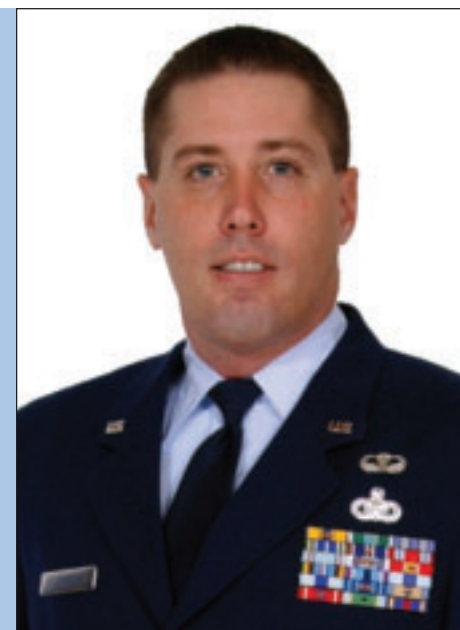
N.M. Air National Guard names year's top enlisted members



**SENIOR AIRMAN
NATHAN NICHOLS**
Airman of the Year
150th Logistics Readiness Squadron



STAFF SGT. JOHN R. DEUEL
Noncommissioned
Officer of the Year
150th Fighter Wing



**MASTER SERGEANT
ROY J. JOHNSON**
Senior Noncommissioned
Officer of the Year
150th Security Forces Squadron

Military doctrine changes ahead to meet threat

BY DONNA MILES

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Military doctrine needs to be less detailed, more adaptable and less rooted in Cold War mindsets to guide U.S. military forces confronting new challenges, particularly global terrorism.

That was the synopsis of Army leaders, who gathered this week at U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command headquarters at Fort Monroe, Va., to describe sweeping changes they envision in military doctrine — that shared way of thinking about the way the military approaches a problem and carries out missions.

Lt. Gen. William "Scott" Wallace, heads the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. As commander of the Army's 5th Corps, he led the Army forces during major combat action in Operation Iraqi Freedom, he said much of the combat phase of the campaign followed closely along age-old doctrinal principles.

But other aspects of the operation diverged significantly from traditional doctrine, he said: the lack of clear-cut distinctions between the phases of operations, the increased blend between conventional and special operations forces, the emphasis on joint operations at increasing lower levels, among them.

Perhaps most significant, the Army leaders agreed, was the nature of the enemy himself and the way he fights.

Under Cold War assumptions, which guided military doctrine for decades, the adversary was relatively steady and predictable, explained Brig. Gen. David Fastabend, director of concept development and experimentation at U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Futures Center.

Not so with the estimated 30 million to 60 million people in the world who General Fastabend said are "violently and irreconcilably opposed" to the concepts the United States and much of the world has embraced: glo-

balization, free markets and the free exchange of ideas.

This enemy, General Fastabend said, lacks the structure of the U.S. military as well as its traditional adversaries, so it's able to adapt quickly to suit the circumstances. "Its weakness is actually its strength," he said. In addition, these adversaries simply don't think the way most other people think, making it difficult to understand what motivates them or predict how they'll act.

These uncertainties, the Army leaders agreed, turn many doctrinal principles rooted in the Cold War on their head. "Both the predictions and outcomes have changed," General Wallace said.

In response, General Wallace said doctrine must become more streamlined so it's more of a playbook than a textbook and gives commanders more flexibility on the battlefield. "If you're looking for specificity in doctrine, you're not going to get it," he said.

Similarly, as the enemy constantly

adapts, so too must military doctrine, the leaders agreed. Gone are the days when doctrine required little more than periodic tweaking to stay current. More appropriate for today's military, they agreed, would be a "living" doctrine that regularly incorporates new, proven tactics, techniques, procedures and other lessons learned.

General Fastabend said doctrine needs to be detailed enough to help military leaders think and reason through an issue, but general enough to prepare them for "more dimensions of uncertainty" than they faced in the past.

As the armed forces face these uncertainties, the military leaders agreed the fundamentals of warfare—being able to shoot, communicate and move on the battlefield—become more important than ever.

"When you've got that, you can deal better with uncertainty. It makes it easier to do things nonstandard and unusual," General Wallace said. "If you have the fundamentals right, you can deal with the broken play."

Rumsfeld cites 'gap' in media reports on Iraq

BY JOHN D. BANUSIEWICZ

American Forces Press Service

SINGAPORE—The real situation in Iraq and its depiction in the media are two different things, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said here recently.

Secretary Rumsfeld, here to meet with Singaporean officials and attend a conference, made the comment during a town hall meeting aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Essex.

Responding to a question from a Marine about when he might get a chance to serve in Iraq, the secretary expanded on his explanation of deployment policies to comment on the work service members are doing in Iraq. He said he visits Iraq every few months, and the success stories and progress he sees and hears about aren't reflected in the media coverage he sees back home.

"I come back to the United States, and I see in the press the difficulties—only the difficulties, the hardships, the ug-

liness—and goodness knows it's there, and the reality that people do get killed and do get wounded," he said.

But a "gap between what you see out there and what you feel" and the media coverage of Iraq is something, he said, he can't explain. "I suppose that for whatever reason, people seem to think that news isn't news unless it's bad news, because that's essentially what's getting reported."

With the 60th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy, June 6, that turned the tide of World War II, Rumsfeld recalled the carnage of the D-Day assault. He wondered aloud what would have happened to Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower had the landing been reported by today's media.

"I suppose they would have been calling General Eisenhower back for congressional hearings," he said.